

REMARKS

Applicants, by the amendments presented above, have made a concerted effort to present claims which more clearly define over the prior art of record, and thus to place this case in condition for allowance. Currently, claims 1-4 and 6-10 are pending. Claims 5 and 10-13 have been canceled. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application on the subject matter of claims 10-13.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations previously found in claim 5 which the Examiner indicated to be allowable. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable. The remaining claims are dependent upon claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 1-4 and 6-10 are also allowable.

Applicants have amended the Abstract to remove "disclosed". The Abstract is also presented on a separate page.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview on April 19, 2004. During the interview, the Examiner more fully explained her position on the Faithfull reference and Applicants requested the Examiner's preliminary opinion on claim language. No agreement as to claim language was reached.

A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time is concurrently submitted herewith to extend the date for response up to and including May 10, 2004.

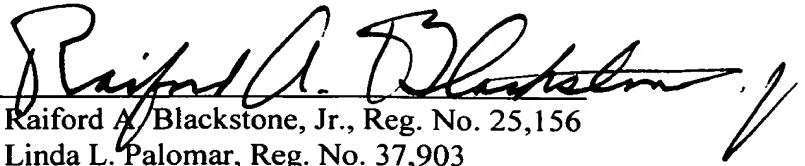
Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

April 21, 2004

By:



Raiford A. Blackstone, Jr., Reg. No. 25,156

Linda L. Palomar, Reg. No. 37,903

TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI

BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.

105 W. Adams Street

Suite 3600

Chicago, Illinois 60603

(312) 704-1890

650863